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the author might have mentioned the fact that one of the twenty columns of the peristyle is missing, and to his list of *horrea* named after persons on page 418, he might have added the *Horrea Faeniana*, which I brought to light in the *American Journal of Philology* (XXX. 159). Here and there, also, the bibliographies leave something to be desired, a lack which is doubtless due in large measure to the slowness of the processes of publication. For example, on page 72, note 2, Hülsen's recent article on the fire of Nero (*A. J. A.*, 1909, p. 45) and Profumo's reply (*Riv. St. Ant.*, 1909, p. 3 ff.) are missing; on page xiii, Hülsen-Carter, *The Roman Forum*, is given in the first edition (1906), though the second appears on page 170; on page 248 a reference to Stein's report in *Bursian*, 1909, page 162, would have been helpful; and on page 362, note 1, the important monographs of Gardthausen (1908) and Studniczka (1909) should have been mentioned. It is unfortunate, too, that Graffunder's thoroughgoing researches on the age of the Servian wall (*Klio*, 1911, pp. 83-123), which were certainly known to the author (p. 116, note 2), were printed too late to be included. These, however, are but slight faults in a work of such extent, and their mention should not be allowed to obscure the fact that Professor Platner has given us a book of the highest value, a book which on the whole adequately represents the present state of knowledge in the field of Roman topography.

HARRY LANGFORD WILSON.

#### BOOKS OF MEDIEVAL AND MODERN EUROPEAN HISTORY

*The Cambridge Medieval History*. Planned by J. B. BURY, M.A., Regius Professor of Modern History. Edited by H. M. GWATKIN, M.A., and J. P. WHITNEY, B.D. Volume I. *The Christian Roman Empire and the Foundation of the Teutonic Kingdoms*. (New York: The Macmillan Company. 1911. Pp. xxii, 754.)

THE *Cambridge Medieval History* is very like its predecessor, the *Cambridge Modern History*. One notable improvement has been adopted, the publication with each volume of a series of illustrative maps. Otherwise, as in the earlier work, there is a group of chapters on a definable portion of the larger field, by various writers; following the text, a series of bibliographies, according to chapters—selective bibliographies but including as a rule little or no comment on the matter listed; next, a chronological table of leading events; then an index—which promises to be somewhat fuller than in the *Modern History*.

To the present volume—the first of eight projected—twenty different scholars have contributed more than as many chapters. The result is necessarily a sort of historical mosaic; however, a mosaic planned and constructed to fill a certain place. The work is intended, say its editors, "partly for the general reader, as a clear and, as far as possible, inter-

esting narrative; partly for the student, as a summary of ascertained facts . . . partly as a book of reference, containing all that can reasonably be required in a comprehensive work of general history". So much for the audience in view. Who should occupy the stage? Special students in the various subjects, engaged to tell, not with an apparatus of notes such as the investigator would need and demand, but simply out of the fullness of their own knowledge, what they may say trustworthily as acquired fact; thus giving, as Lord Acton expressed it, "history as each of the several parts is known to the man who knows it best".

It would appear that the audience in Britain which wishes to be addressed on history in this way is very considerable. Its members may hardly be said to be averse to presentations in literary style, nor exactly to be opposed to notes. Only, they entertain no special care for the investigator's apparatus, and they desire primarily the facts, acquired knowledge, intelligibly—but not necessarily artistically—set forth. Is there not a perceptible audience of this sort on our side of the Atlantic too? Should we be the worse off if it were larger? In any case here is a work which seems to be aimed at folk of such type. Shall we find fault with it for not being something different, or take it as it is and see how or from what portions of it we can likely profit most?

To realize the aims of the work has obviously been the problem, in the last resort, of those contributing the several chapters. That they have succeeded only in varying degrees goes almost without saying. Probably some of them scarcely perceived just what was wanted. In any event not all of them might surely choose the best way of doing their part, and even if they all agreed as to the best way their skill in following it out must likely prove diverse. Classifying broadly, some of the contributors to the present volume have proceeded as if they were to tell, not primarily of a subject but what the documents available say on the subject, or on this or that question about it. Others have kept well to the subject, but have treated it after the manner merely of a summary of data, human events with the human quite omitted. Others again—and to them let us accord the laurel—have kept to the subject, have set forth the facts upon it, and besides have arisen to varying heights—some to real summits—in comment on the facts.

In what proportion do these several degrees of attainment appear in the present volume? Of chapters I.–III., which relate to the later Empire, two are throughout ably and helpfully done: that in which Professor Gwatkin sets forth the rise of Constantine, his reunion of the Empire, his conversion to Christianity, the political side of the Nicene Council, and the foundation of Constantinople; and that on the Reorganization of the Empire, in which Professor J. S. Reid gives an account of the reforms of Diocletian and Constantine and describes the features which Roman administration wore for centuries after. The third—on Constantine's Successors to Jovian: and the Struggle with Persia, by Mr. Norman H. Baynes—leans more toward the character of a summary;

but it has a human touch here and there, findable joints, and some especially good pages on Julian. The next three chapters treat of the Church in the time of the Empire: *The Triumph of Christianity*, by Principal Lindsay; *Arianism*, by Professor Gwatkin; *The Organization of the Church*, by Mr. C. H. Turner. All three are well done, so well that they belong easily in the first class. No one of them is to be read while running—though Mr. Lindsay's comes nearest to that—but each will repay him who is thoughtful and takes time.

With the third block of chapters, VII.-XV., on the Teutons and other invaders of the Empire, the long battle against them and their ultimate victory—the case is not so generally favorable. Dr. Martin Bang and Dr. M. Manitius carry the story of the Teutons, the one to 378, the other from 378 to 412. Both furnish useful material for reference, but do extremely little else. Sandwiched between their accounts is a survey of ground largely the same, but from the Roman side, *The Dynasty of Valentinian and Theodosius the Great*, by Mr. Baynes: in sequence to his preceding chapter but far more of the order of summary. On the various invading peoples from the early fifth century, Ludwig Schmidt, a specially distinguished scholar in the field, writes of the Visigoths in Gaul, of the Sueves, Alans, and Vandals in Spain, and the Vandal Dominion in Africa, and of Attila. He gives much assured information, but unfortunately leaves it mostly juiceless. Mr. F. G. M. Beck presents, not the subject of the Teutonic conquest of Britain, but the evidence on several questions concerning it. What he says should at least prove useful in controlling the traditional dicta on the matter. M. Maurice Dumoulin treats *The Kingdom of Italy under Odovacar and Theodoric*, but, alas! with regard not so much to the subject as to what the documents say.

Happily some parts of this block of the work promise wider usefulness. Such are the few pages in which M. Christian Pfister gives a lucid account of the Franks before Clovis—showing what is possible even with such a subject. Such also is the half-chapter—readable as well as able—in which Professor Haverfield treats of Roman Britain. Of special promise is Dr. T. Peisker's *The Asiatic Background*, an account of Central Asia and the Altaian mounted nomads, written by a master of the subject and packed with fresh and informing matter. As the editors say, there is not much history in it; but it should light up for many a student much of the history of Europe. In a better known field but on a higher plane of treatment is *Italy and the West, 410-476*, by Mr. Ernest Barker. This chapter is good enough—save possibly in some of its later pages—to make one all but forget the shortcomings of most of its fellows in the same block.

The last half-dozen chapters, XVI.-XXI., treat of various subjects, and again, variously well. *The Eastern Provinces from Arcadius to Anastasius*, by Mr. E. W. Brooks, is in the main a prosaic record of a time not altogether prosaic. *Thoughts and Ideas of the Period*, by Mr. H. F.

Stewart, has at least some pages that are well done. Mr. Lethaby's Early Christian Art is little more than a collection of data. All in the best class are Miss Gardner's Religious Disunion in the Fifth Century—setting out well the main lines of controversy and its fruits for the Empire; Dom E. C. Butler's Monasticism—tracing lucidly and sympathetically the growth of monasticism and its main forms through the establishment of the Benedictine rule; and Professor Vinogradoff's Social and Economic Conditions in the Roman Empire—a little technical and heavy on the formation of the colonate, but a thoughtful and helpful general view.

Thus fully half of this volume may well challenge the interest of serious readers upon the early Middle Ages. Doubtless many of us could wish the work were of a different sort, but there is ample reason for gratefully accepting it as it is.

E. W. Dow.

*Naval Strategy Compared and Contrasted with the Principles and Practice of Military Operations on Land.* Lectures delivered at U. S. War College, Newport, R. I., between the years 1887 and 1911, by Captain A. T. MAHAN, D.C.L., LL.D., United States Navy. (Boston: Little, Brown, and Company. 1911. Pp. xxii, 475.)

BELIEVING that in the study of history would be found ample illustration of the principles of sound naval strategy, Captain Mahan first wrote a series of lectures which were afterwards published under the title of *The Influence of Sea Power upon History, 1660-1783*. It was upon this foundation that he then built up the formulation of principles of naval strategy contained in the original lectures which are here presented in their revised and expanded form.

He says that experience is history in the making but experience is quickly forgotten unless recorded. History on the other hand is experience recorded and so these lectures are simply the announcement of principles and illustrations drawn from history in their support.

Four chapters are devoted to Historical Illustrations and Comments on the importance and value of (1) concentration, whether it be of a force on land or on the sea; and, as a means thereto, (2) of a central line or position, (3) of interior lines of movement which such a position presents, and (4) of the bearing of communications upon military tenure and success. These are followed by chapters on the Foundations and Principles of strategy and the application of these principles to the Caribbean and the Gulf of Mexico.

The whole volume is practically devoted to an exposition of the great principle of concentration and there are but few pages in the book that do not bring forward some illustration drawn from history that has a bearing on this principle.